



Frequently Asked Questions About Michigan Merit Examination Score Reports

July 2008

1. **What is the Michigan Merit Examination?** - The Michigan Merit Examination (MME) is the state high school assessment administered to grade 11 and grade 12 students. It replaced the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) high school assessment in Spring 2007. The MME is now administered each year during the month of March.

The MME is comprised of the ACT Plus Writing® college entrance exam, portions of the WorkKeys® work skills assessment, and several Michigan components developed to assess Michigan high school content standards. The MME assesses students in English Language Arts (reading and writing), Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. The assessment items are aligned to Michigan high school content standards.

2. **How does a student qualify for the Michigan Promise Scholarship?** - To qualify for the \$4000 Michigan Promise scholarship, students must take the entire MME and receive valid MME scores in Mathematics, Reading, Writing, and Science.

To qualify for early receipt (installment payments) of the Michigan Promise scholarship, students must achieve proficiency (performance level 1 or 2) in Mathematics, Reading, Writing, AND Science. Students who receive a valid MME score in all four subjects, but do not achieve proficiency (performance level 1 or 2) in ALL FOUR SUBJECTS may retake the MME in Spring 2009 in the hope of receiving the early receipt (installment payments) of the Michigan Promise scholarship.

For details about the Michigan Promise scholarship, please contact the Michigan Department of Treasury toll-free at (800) 447-2687.

3. **Who may retake the MME?** - Students may retake the MME only once, and only if they did not already achieve proficiency (performance level 1 or 2) in ALL FOUR subjects of Mathematics, Reading, Writing, and Science. Students who retake the MME must take all portions of the test.

4. **Are schools required to administer the MME?** - Yes. Federal and State laws require public schools to assess certain grade levels. The MME assesses juniors and some seniors while the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) assesses grades 3-9. These assessments provide a way to measure all Michigan students in the same subject, at the same time. The test provides valuable information to parents on their student's academic performance.

5. **My son took the ACT separate from the MME. Can he use that ACT score as part of his MME score?** - No. The ACT Plus Writing® college entrance exam taken separate from the MME is not the same test as the ACT Plus Writing® offered as part of the MME. The scores cannot be swapped. The MME must be taken in its entirety, which includes the ACT Plus Writing®.

6. **Is the ACT taken as a part of the MME accepted by colleges as a valid ACT entrance exam?** - Yes, if the test was taken under college reportable conditions, meaning Standard Testing or ACT Approved Accommodations. If you are uncertain if the student's test was taken under these conditions, please contact your high school's Guidance Office.
7. **What is WorkKeys?** - WorkKeys® is a national assessment that measures work readiness skills in the areas of Reading for Information and Applied Mathematics. WorkKeys test results compare the skill levels required by jobs in the WorkKeys job profiles database to those of individuals who have taken the WorkKeys assessments. More information on WorkKeys® can be found at www.act.org/workkeys.
8. **How may the state average scores from the ACT portion of the MME be compared to the average scores from annual ACT High School Profile of each year's graduating class?** – The state average scores for the ACT portion of the MME are the averages taken from only the current year administration. The average scores shown in the annual ACT High School Profile are the averages for high school seniors who took the test as sophomores, juniors, or seniors.
9. **How do MME scores impact Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)?** - The process for determining the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) status under the federal *No Child Left Behind Act* for a school or district is complex and involves data from many sources. Results from the MME are simply one part of the total calculation. AYP status is reported separately by the State when all elements of the process have been assembled. For more information about AYP, please see the web page www.michigan.gov/ayp.
10. **Where can I find more information regarding MME results on the web?** - Go to www.michigan.gov/mme, then select "Assessment Results." You will find information on state, district and school results, including a Guide to Reports, a downloadable school and district summary file, and other information aid your understanding of the MME results.

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